

A

Form of Prayer

Us'd by the

SEVENOIS,

In their Assemblies.



ETERNAL and most Gracious God! God of Heaven and Earth, for whose Service we undergo so many Calamities, we lift up our Eyes to Thee, expecting our Deliverance from thine Assistance alone. Oh! Lord! Thou seeest our Affliction and our hard Bondage: Have Compassion upon us according to the infinite Riches of thy Mercies, and the Faithfulness of thy Promises. Arise, O Lord! and thine Enemies shall be dispers'd; and those who hate Thee shall fly from before Thee. Dissipate them like the Smoke driven by the Wind, and as the Wax that melts before the Fire. Oh! Lord! our Good God, bow thy Heavens and come down: Visit the Mountains, and let them rejoice. 'Tis Time, oh! Lord! that Thou take Pity on thy holy *Sion*; for the Time Thou hast appointed is come; thy Servants are affectionate to its Rubbish, and eager to rebuild its Walls.

'Tis true, we are unworthy of thy Mercies: We have sinned, Oh! Lord! We have been rebellious to thy Commands; where-

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fore Thou hast cast us from Thee. Thou hast cover'd us with thy Wrath, and pursued us with thy flaming Vengeance. Thou hast stretch'd forth thine Arm in Indignation, and hast spared none. Thou hast thrown us into the middle of the Sea: All thy Waves and Billows have past over us: The Waters have surrounded us to the very Soul, and the Abyſs has overwhelm'd us: But we cry to Thee, O Lord! from the deep Places: Hear our Voice, and let thine Ears be attentive to our Supplications. If our Iniquities witness against us, deliver us for the sake of thy Mercy alone. Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to thy Name let all Honour and Praise be given, for the sake of thy Goodness, for the sake of thy Truth, and for the sake of thine only Son our SAVIOUR, who has suffer'd Death for the Expiation of our Sins. Look upon us, Oh! Lord! in the Person of that beloved Son, who has yielded to Thee a perfect Obedience; who has offer'd to Thee an everlasting, and ever-sweet-smelling Sacrifice; who intercedes now for us; and whom we now embrace, thro' a lively Faith, as our Redeemer, the Prince of Life, and the only Support of our Hopes. Oh! Merciful God, make us Sharers of the infinite Merit of his Death, and cover us with his most perfect Justice, that our Sins, yea, even our most heinous and crying Sins, may no longer appear before thy Eyes, nor any longer provoke thy Wrath.

Why should the Nations say in Derision, *Where is now their God?* Thou hast heard it, oh! Lord! Thou art our God; Thou art the Powerful, the Almighty God, whose Throne is in the Heavens. Look down, oh! Lord! for we are thy People. If the Malice of our Enemies has triumph'd over our Frailty, we cry to Thee, O Lord; we lift up our Hearts to Thee, we will not leave Thee till Thou hast blest us. O Lord! our Desires are to do thy Will: Do Thou give us the Strength and Means to accomplish our Desires. Deliver us from our Prison and Slavery, that we may celebrate thy Holy Name, serve Thee according to thy Word, and ever bleſs and glorifie Thee.

If we would bend our Knees before *Idols*; if we would forget thy Commandments, and follow the Traditions and Inventions of Men, the World would love us, and make us Sharers of their Goods and Honours. But, Oh! Lord, we will have no other
God.

God but Thee; adore none but Thee; serve none but Thee; call upon none but Thee; trust in none but Thee alone. We will have no other Mediator, Intercessor, or Patron, but thy dearly beloved Son. We acknowledge and confess no other Merit than that of his Death; no other Justice than his; no other Purgatory than his Blood; nor any other good Dispositions in us, but such as thou givest us by thy Grace; therefore 'tis to Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one only God, and ever blessed Trinity, that we will give all the Glory and Honour of our Salvation. We will add nothing to what thou commandest us in thy Word, neither will we retrench any thing from it. We will read and meditate thy Law Day and Night. We will assemble in Thy Name to pay our Homage to Thee, to implore thy Mercy, to learn thy Will, and to celebrate thy Glory, by the singing of thy Praises. Wherefore the Enemies of thy Honour oppress us: They have not only violated thy Laws, but also broken Edicts, which had oftentimes been confirm'd by solemn Oaths, wherein thy sacred Name had been invoc'd, and whereby our Fore-Fathers had made Thee the Guarantee of those Edicts. They have pull'd down thy Sanctuaries, prophaned, torn and burnt thy Holy Scriptures, put to Death thy Anointed and thy Prophets, and polluted the Earth by the innocent Blood they have spilt upon it, an infinite Number of times, and in an Infinite Number of Places, and which now cries to Thee for Vengeance, as that of *Abel*.

Where is now thy Jealousie? Oh! God! Where is the Yearnings of thy Bowels? Oh! Lord, hearken to our Cries and Groans. Make haste to help us, for we perish. Our Enemies trust in their Cunning and their Might, but our whole Trust is in Thee. Art thou not the God of Heaven and Earth, in the Presence of whom all Nations are like a drop of Water, dropping from a Bucket, and like the small Dust of a Ballance? Art thou not he who surprizest the Wise in their Wiles, and dissipatest all their Councils? Art thou not the Lord of Hosts, the great God, the mighty and terrible God? We are indeed weak and small, but thou art our Strength. Our Fathers have told us all thy Wonders, therefore we put our whole Trust in thee. Come then to our Help, Oh! Merciful God: Let thine Angels encamp round us. Oh thou Lord Jesus, who art the chief of the Heavenly Host, who art our
King.

King, our Deliverer, and the Angel of the Face of our God, march before us in the Day of Battle ; lead us on, protect us, and fight for us. Oh ! Holy and Divine Spirit, Spirit of Life ! Soul of our Soul, whom our Sins had provok'd, and wast gone from us, return to us ; re-animate us, vivifie us, abide with us for ever ; sanctifie us, make us new Creatures ; grant that we be acceptable to the Eyes of our God, and that hereafter we may be the Objects of his Love and most precious Blessings. Oh ! Spirit of Piety and Charity, kindle in us the Love of our God, a holy Zeal for his Glory, and a fervent Charity towards our Neighbours. Thou who art the Spirit of Council and Strength, fill us with Wisdom, Force, and Courage, that we may resist all the Efforts of our Enemies. Oh ! good, gracious God, make us glad for the Years thou hast afflicted us. Deliver us from our present Distress, and we shall glorifie thee : Restore us, and we shall call upon thy Holy Name.

In the mean time, Oh ! Lord, we pray thee for those who persecute us : They have provok'd thy Wrath, and therefore thou beginnest to smite them. But, Oh ! good and merciful God, remember in thine Anger to have Compassion. Pity their Ignorance, humble them, but do not wholly destroy them. Mercy, Mercy upon this miserable People. Let those find thee, O Lord, that did not seek after Thee. Say to the Nation that did not call upon Thy Name, Here I am, Here I am, Here I am. Send Labourers to thy Harvest, for it is ripe. Give Efficacy to thy Word : Pour down thy Spirit upon all Flesh. Establish thy Kingdom all over the Earth. And finally, O Lord ! let all Men rejoice in thy Light ; let thy Knowledge, Fear, and Love dwell among us, that we may live like thy Children, serve thee with one accord, bless and glorifie Thee together, and that after having serv'd, blest, and glorified Thee upon Earth, we may at last eternally celebrate Thy Glory in Heaven in the Company of Angels and blessed Spirits. Amen.

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